E/ECE/TRADE/WP.4/INF.17
TD/B/ASTD/INF.17
30 August 1972

Original: ENGLISH/FRENCH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Committee on the Development of Trade

Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Trade and Development Board

Advisory Services on Trade Documentation

TRADE DOCUMENTATION INFORMATION

IMCO CONSTITUTION OF A FACILITATION COMMITTEE

(Note by the Inter-regional Adviser on Trade Documentation)

1. The Council of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) at its 28th Session adopted a Resolution (No 54) whereby the previous Ad Hoc Working Group on Facilitation was reconstituted as an IMCO Facilitation Committee. The Resolution is worded as follows:

THE COUNCIL,

NOTING with satisfaction the accomplishments of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Facilitation since its inception,

OBSERVING the comprehensive facilitation programmes carried on by other international organizations and the continuing importance such organizations attach to facilitation,

TAKING COGNIZANCE of the desires of Member Governments to broaden the facilitation activities of the Organization and place them on a permanent basis, while continuing the present role of the Working Group as set forth in Resolution A.78 (IV) of the Assembly.

CONSIDERING that this objective should be attained by constituting a committee of the Council without impairing the specific powers and duties of Contracting Governments as conferred on them by the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic,

DECIDES

(1) under Rule 22 of its Rules of Procedure, to constitute a Facilitation Committee, to serve as a subsidiary body of the Council and also to assume the functions of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Facilitation as a consultative and advisory body to the Secretary-General;

(2) to authorize the Committee to consider all matters concerning facilitation of international maritime travel and

transport

(a) arising from the functions defined in Resolution A.78(IV);

(b) which the Council may refer to it;

(c) which governments may propose;

(3) to authorize the Committee to carry on its activities in accordance with the following terms of reference:

(a) to carry out all the functions defined in Resolution A.78(IV);

(b) to consider other appropriate measures to facilitate international maritime travel and transport by promoting simplification, reduction to a minimum and harmonization of the formalities, documentary requirements and procedures on the arrival, stay and departure of ships engaged in international voyages;

(c) to recommend formulation, adoption and implementation of appropriate measures of facilitation to expedite international maritime traffic and to prevent unnecessary delays;

(d) to collaborate with other interested organizations or bodies, so as to avoid duplication of efforts and to assure that practical work on specific tasks is undertaken in the most appropriate forum;

(4) that membership of the Committee shall be open to:

(a) Governments of all States, Members of IMCO, and

(b) Governments of all States Parties to the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic which are not also Members of IMCO,

provided, however, that except in respect of questions relating to proposed amendments to the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic and its Annex, the right to vote in the Committee shall be reserved to the representatives of Governments Members of IMCO.